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U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S A 1
GENERAL

MOSCOW: 'PEOPLE WANT TO DETERMINE OWN FATE'

LD032121Y Moscow in Arabic to North Africa 1830 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Aleksey Zlatorunskiy commentary: "The Myth of Soviet Interference and the Facts"]

[Text] Growing Soviet influence, Soviet interference--these and similar expressions are often uttered by Western politicians and journalists. They are generally used when a given country breaks from the capitalist system and when plans aimed at consolidating imperialist positions fail. For instance, the failure of the antirevolution plot in Angola and the attempt to liquidate the progressive regime in Ethiopia resulted in the claim that Moscow had had a hand in these events.

When the peoples of Afghanistan and the PDRY refused to continue to tolerate the system of capitalist relations based on injustice and chose the specialist development path, this aroused a fuss about the so-called Soviet interference. The futility of these claims must be very clear to those who spread these sayings, yet they succumb to the temptation of trying to attribute to Soviet interference the growing resistance in the world to imperialist policy and the abandonment of capitalism.

However, it must be recognized, and this is a matter which arouses the strongest of fears in the West, that there is no future for capitalism and that the path of socialist development is the one preferred by young states. The USSR has been in existence for just over 61 years and the socialist community--which at present includes 15 countries--for a much shorter time. Yet they have been able to be ahead of the capitalist world from the point of view of their development rates and have become a mighty economic power.

Here we must note that countries which are not yet socialist but have chosen the path to socialism are also progressing at a high speed. This is sufficiently indicated by Algeria, whose development is ahead of many countries which became independent years before Algeria. From this viewpoint it is possible to talk with complete justice about the firm example of the socialist countries and the influence of socialism, primarily the influence of the USSR, whose foreign policy is characterized by an upright struggle for peace and detente and whose internal policy is aimed at raising the living standard of the workers to the highest level possible.

It is very natural that the supporters of socialism and the enemies of capitalism should increase each year. In an attempt to obstruct this historic operation, the West pursues active sabotage against young states which have chosen the progressive path of development and interferes blatantly in their internal affairs. For example, the active participation of intelligence in the antirevolutionary coup in Chile led to the extermination of the Chilean patriots. In Egypt imperialism has been able, in alliance with local reaction led by As-Sadat, to eliminate almost all the gains of the Egyptian people.

However, no matter how much they boast about their alleged victories, the imperialists will succeed in their actions only for a limited period. As is known, the struggle of the Chilean patriots for the restoration of democracy in the country and the downfall of the ruling military junta enjoys world support. Gambling on reaction and regimes hostile to the people does not benefit anyone, no matter how much those who wager try to be misleading. Is this not indicated by the example of Iran? Life requires a realistic attitude toward events in the world, knowing that one of the main characteristics of this realism is summed up in the recognition that peoples want to determine their own fates.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
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NORTH-SOUTH DIALOG CONFERENCE IN JAMAICA 'FRUITLESS'

LD301558Y Moscow TASS in English 1408 GMT 30 Dec 78 LD

["Fruitless Dialogue"--TASS heading]

[Text] New York, December 30, TASS--A two-day conference of heads of state and government of seven countries--the FRG, Canada, Australia, Norway, Venezuela, Nigeria and Jamaica--that was held in Jamaica behind closed doors ended without achieving any results. News agencies report that participants in this meeting which was described in advance by its organisers as being "unofficial" were unable to work out any specific proposals to resolve serious problems that exist between developing countries and industrialized capitalist states. The session even failed to adopt a final statement which, in the opinion of observers, attests to insurmountable difficulties and serious differences between industrialized Western capitalist countries and young developing states, the contradictions that were manifested with renewed force during the current meeting.

At a press conference that was held after the meeting, its participants limited themselves only to generalized statements about "usefulness" of such meetings and the need to continue the talks.

Though the agenda of the conference at Jamaica was not announced, going by reports that leaked into the press it raised again the question of fixing equitable prices of raw materials exported by developing countries and touched upon the need of revising unequal economic relations of young states with the West.

The talks between these two groups of countries that were described as the "North-South Dialogue" are being conducted since 1975, but have not yet brought any tangible results. The West ignores completely the protests of developing countries that point out justifiedly that while prices of many raw materials are pegged at inordinately low level, the cost of goods produced by capitalist states grow constantly.

REPORTERS EVANS, NOVAK HIT FOR 'DELIBERATE MISINFORMATION'

LD031223Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Dec 78 p 5 LD

[Vitaliy Korionov commentary: "Malicious Provocateurs"]

[Text] The efforts of the Soviet Union, the other socialist community countries, peace-loving states and public forces to normalize the international situation are yielding fruitful results. Detente opponents, however--primarily reactionary forces in the United States and the press that serves them--are trying their best to prevent this.

The American newspapermen R. Novak and R. Evans are typical representatives of the "hawkish" trend in the U.S. press. From their publications it is possible to judge the aims and purposes of cold war propagandists. Among their colleagues this twosome is distinguished by the fact that it resorts most frequently and impudently to overt lies and to misinforming the American reader so as to fan anti-Soviet hysteria in the United States and stoke international tension. It is clear that this "music" is being ordered from them by circles directly connected with the U.S. military-industrial complex and with American and international reaction.

On orders of these circles Evans and Novak now prime a hostile anti-Cuban ballyhoo, now play up to the Maoists in Peking, disseminating from that source the imaginary "concern over the Soviet threat" there. And now the twosome has concentrated its attention on events in the Near East and the Persian Gulf region.

Quoting stories by some anonymous "eyewitnesses," Evans and Novak have announced from the pages of the Washington POST that "Cuban soldiers and officers have appeared in Kabul....the Cubans are probably (!) in the south of the country too."

Is this not an example of a most impudent lie! For it is known that there are no Cuban soldiers or officers either in Kabul or in southern Afghanistan.

The involvement of the Soviet Union and Cuba in the Iranian events is "proved" in a similar way. Naturally, there is no proof either. Reference is made instead to another anonymous "authoritative source," which allegedly knows that "at least 2 years ago" there appeared signs of...."Soviet-Cuban aspirations in Iran."

The spuriousness of such fabrications is obvious. And their purpose is clear too: to use the poisonous fog of deliberate misinformation to cover the plans for interference in the affairs of other countries on the part of those circles whose mouthpiece are the above-mentioned provocateurs.

TASS REPORTS GENERAL HAIG'S DECISION TO RETIRE

LD032100Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1825 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

["Alexander Haig Retiring"--TASS headline]

[Text] Brussels, 3 January, TASS--American General Alexander Haig, supreme NATO allied commander in Europe, has handed in his resignation from the post he occupies.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES

At a press conference held in Casteau (near the town of Mons) today where the general headquarters of the supreme command of the NATO allied armed forces in Europe are located, Alexander Haig reported that he had submitted a letter tendering his resignation to Joseph Luns, NATO secretary general, and to U.S. President James Carter. The general referred to the fact that he had already been in his present post for 4 and a half years. He added that at present he did not have any plans to go into politics.

Alexander Haig's retirement will come into effect on 30 June 1979. The general, however, did not say whether his resignation had been accepted by NATO or the U.S. President.

U.S. GIVES AID TO COUNTRIES AMENABLE TO U.S. POLICIES

LD032000Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1632 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Washington--The U.S. Department of Agriculture has published a draft program entitled "Food for Peace" which envisages the sale in the coming fiscal year of U.S. foodstuffs to the poorest developing countries. However, as can be seen from the draft plan, the main criterion in making up the program is not how much a given country is in need but how loyal it is to Washington policies.

For example, the biggest recipients within the framework of this program will be Egypt, whose leadership is carrying out a pro-imperialist course in the Near East and Africa. The good will of Washington extends to such bloody regimes which have trampled on the rights and freedoms of peoples as the South Korean, Haitian and Honduran regimes.

The population of these countries is truly in need of aid, including foodstuffs. However, the means which are allotted within the framework of various American programs, are taken over by the ruling strata, who use them for aims completely alien to the people and carry out policies favorable to the U.S. monopolies.

FOREIGN REPORTS ON MOVEMENT OF PRC TROOPS CITED

LDO31616Y Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The leaders of the People's Republic of China are taking advantage of normalization of relations with the United States to whip up tension on the borders with the country's neighbors. According to reports from foreign correspondents in Beijing [Peking], the troops located in the southern regions of China opposite Taiwan are being moved to the borders with the Soviet Union and Vietnam. Assistant Chairman of the State Council Deng Xiaoping [Teng Hsiao-ping], when exchanging New Year toasts with the head of the American Liaison Mission in Peking, Leonard Woodcock, said that the main danger to China comes from the north and that China stands for a peaceful solution of the problem of Taiwan.

RESHUFFLE IN CCP LEADERSHIP DRAWS COMMENT

LDO32222Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Yevgeniy Kachanov]

[Text] According to reports from Beijing [Peking], a serious reshuffle has occurred in the Chinese leadership. The paper PEOPLE'S DAILY today reported a New Year reception in honor of literary and art figures. From the protocol section of the report one can deduce that the new member of the CCP Central Committee Politburo, Hu Yaobang, [Hu Yao-pang], in addition to the post of director of the Central Committee Organization Department, has also been given the posts of director of the Propaganda Department and of secretary general of the Central Committee. It has become known at the same time that Zhang Pinghua [Chang Ping-hua] has been relieved of the post of director of the Propaganda Department--he was considered one of the closest aides of Chairman Hua Guofeng [Hua Kuo-feng].

In order to appreciate the significance of these changes it is necessary to recall that from 1949 and 1967 the post of secretary general was occupied by none other than Deng Xiaoping [Teng Hsiao-ping]. He himself suffered during the years of the cultural revolution, and the post was abolished. The Propaganda Department of the CCP Central Committee was also abolished at that time. And one who suffered along with Deng was his protege, Hu Yaobang, who at that time headed the youth organization.

After Deng's return to power Hu Yaobang also made a comeback, to occupy the post of director of the Organization Department. Here in particular he gained himself a reputation as a specialist in political purges during the campaign for the purging of the Gang of Four. And now he has been given two more important posts and has moved up significantly in the party hierarchy. One can therefore suppose that in the power struggle within the Beijing ruling clique the so-called old guard headed by Deng Xiaoping has won a further important victory and that those thrown up in the period of the cultural revolution, among them Hua Guofeng, have suffered a further defeat.

From another viewpoint, this reshuffle demolishes completely Deng's recent assertions that unity and accord prevail in the leadership of the CCP.

SOVIET MEDIA CONTINUE TO COMMENT ON SITUATION IN IRAN

Parliamentary Approval of Bakhtiar

LD031837Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The situation in Iran continues to be critical and tense despite the effort being made to form a civilian government led by Shahpur Bakhtiar. The latter's nomination for the premiership was approved by both houses of Parliament today. Large antigovernment and anti-American demonstrations are continuing throughout Iran. Demonstrations by people engulfed nearly (?30) cities yesterday.

Large demonstrations were staged in the Beverly Hills district of California yesterday against the U.S. intervention in Iranian affairs, and nearly 2,000 people--mainly Iranian students as well as Americans--demanded that American aid to the Iranian regime be discontinued. The police used teargas, water cannons and [word indistinct] to disperse the demonstrators. Some 35 demonstrators were wounded and dozens were arrested.

'Contradictory Statements'

LD032237Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" presented by commentator Yevgeniy Kachanov]

[Text] The Iranian Parliament today approved the candidacy of Shahpur Bakhtiar as future head of a civilian government of the country. Both chambers of Parliament--Senate and Majlis--assembled today at separate closed sessions. Details of the discussion on his candidacy remain unknown. It is expected that tomorrow Bakhtiar will present the shah with the cabinet he has assembled. A parliamentary vote of confidence in the government will be held later.

Thus, the plan for a political settlement in Iran has gone into action--a plan believed to have been worked out with the direct participation of American experts. But many, very many, observers doubt whether this plan will be successfully implemented. One reason for these doubts lies in the stormy events which have occurred in recent days in Iran. As has been reported, Bakhtiar, a decidedly moderate opposition politician, was expelled from the National Front because of his talks with the shah and his agreement to head a cabinet. Slogans have appeared on the streets of Iran: Death to Bakhtiar--Lackey of American Imperialism! The National Front has announced its intention to struggle on to full victory--that is, until the shah abdicates.

It is obvious that in such conditions Bakhtiar's Cabinet, even if it is formed and wins a vote of confidence, will find it far from easy to perform its duties.

According to a dispatch from AFP, a spokesman of the shah's palace reported today that the shah has not agreed to leave Iran and allow a Regency Council to be set up in the country. The statement says that the monarch has already said, and is now repeating, that he has no intention for the moment of abandoning Tehran and leaving for a holiday abroad. Under the constitution, a Regency Council can be appointed only in the case of a prolonged absence by the shah of at least 3 months. At a press conference only yesterday prime minister-designate Shahpur Bakhtiar announced that the shah will leave the country.

And so we have one statement contradicting the other. Which of them is to be believed, nobody knows. True, journalists in Tehran are focusing attention on one phrase in the statement from the shah's palace: Remember, the shah has no intention "for the moment" of abandoning Tehran. But how long this "for the moment" will last will evidently be dictated by events in the country, which now no longer depend either on the monarch or on Bakhtiar.

Opposition Refuses to Support Bakhtiar

LD040736Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 4 Jan 79 LD

[Text] According to news agency reports from Tehran, Bakhtiar, as head of the civil government of Iran which he is forming, is to present the members of the new Cabinet to the shah today. The vote of confidence in the legislature on this government, which will replace the military administration, will take place later. However, few people think that the creation of a civil cabinet will solve the political crisis in Iran. The opposition has dissociated itself from Bakhtiar and refused him support. It demands that the country's monarchy be liquidated and that the shah go into exile. Slogans have appeared on the streets in Tehran: Death to Bakhtiar, Lackey of American Imperialism! He is acting in accordance with plans worked out by the United States. Their aim is to renovate the facade of the shah's regime, give it the appearance of democracy and thus to abate the powerful wave of anti-shah and anti-American demonstrations.

Washington is not limiting itself to political manipulations, but is resorting to a show of force. A Pentagon spokesman admitted that a U.S. Navy task force consisting of three warships has entered the Persian Gulf. Again we see the old imperialist gunboat diplomacy.

Meanwhile, yesterday, the disturbances continued. According to Radio Iran, bloody clashes again took place in seven cities including the capital, between demonstrators and the forces.

Iranian Military Dissatisfied

LD031436Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Text] According to news agencies' reports from the capital of Iran, street battles between troops and demonstrators are continuing. Reports of fierce clashes are also coming in from other parts of the country. Iran's economy is paralyzed. The striking workers and clerical staff of the oil industry, the national airline, posts, papers, the international telephone exchange and the customs have been joined by the railroad workers. Movement of passenger and freight trains has completely stopped. All airports are closed. The disturbances in the country are taking on an increasingly clearly expressed anti-American trend. Bakhtiar, the candidate prime minister of Iran who has been expelled from the National Front for agreeing to play this role, has promised in talks with correspondents that in the next few days he will hand over a list of cabinet members for approval by Parliament. A closed meeting of the Majlis and Senate will be held today.

In a television interview Bakhtiar asserted that the shah intends to leave for a holiday abroad and that he will appoint a Regency Council to manage the country's affairs during his absence. However, as the Tehran correspondent of the New York TIMES notes, the higher command of the army is inclined against the shah's departure, fearing that it will undermine discipline in the lower ranks of the army and break the military's will to continue opposing the demonstrators. Dissatisfaction with the prospects of the formation of a civil government is growing in Iran's military circles, and the opinion is being expressed that a military coup is possible.

Recently pamphlets have become the only source of information which Iranians trust. As foreign correspondents report, one of them, entitled "A Malevolent Plot," exposes the plan of the regime and its American patrons to suppress the popular uprising. The shah, his generals, specialists from the U.S. State Department, the Pentagon and the CIA have drawn up a joint operation to be implemented in two stages. The pamphlet says that Bakhtiar, the candidate for prime minister, is the instrument for implementing the first stage. Then a special group of senior officers, who at the present time are engaged in organizing in Tehran various provocations, arson, murders and sabotage, are to enter the picture. This group will try to seize power and suppress popular manifestations by means of the cruelest terror.

Bovin 'Rejoinder'

LD031031Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Dec '78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[A. Bovin "Rejoinder" (Replika): "Who Then Is to Blame?"]

[Text] Last week an article by D. Sutherland under the heading "Did the Disturbances in Iran Take U.S. Political Strategists Unawares?" was published in the U.S. newspaper the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR. The question is rhetorical. To judge from what is being written and said in the United States the scale and duration of the massive antigovernment demonstrations in Iran really have taken official Washington unawares.

Immediately another question arises--not a rhetorical one this time: Who is to blame? Who is to blame for the fact that, at a critical moment for U.S. policy in Iran, the U.S. administration proved to have lost its bearings? Who is to blame for the fact that the U.S. weapons, U.S. military advisers and U.S. businessmen inundating Iran were not only unable to consolidate the regime but, in the final analysis, acted as destabilizing factors?

The slight naivete of these questions might surprise the Soviet reader. But for Americans who have grown accustomed or, to be more exact, have been schooled by their press to accept political events in an extremely simplified form, these questions do not sound naive at all. But what answers to these questions are Americans hearing?

Some, D. Sutherland writes, heap "most of the blame" on the CIA for failing to see in time the "potential dangers of the Iranian situation." Others place responsibility for what has happened on "Carter's human rights policy and what they consider to be a lack of consistency on Carter's part in helping the shah." Still others assert that Carter is not to blame but that Nixon and Kissinger are the culprits. It was they who, by giving the regime unconditional assistance and promising "anything at all" in the arms sphere, promoted a situation where the shah began to feel a "sense of omnipotence." Finally, a fourth group recalls the time of President Johnson when, "out of respect" for the regime, the United States renounced its contacts with opposition groups and thereby lost an opportunity to objectively assess the situation.

There is most probably some degree of truth in each of these answers. The CIA frequently reports to the leadership [nachalstvo] the situation not as it is but as it "ought" to be. The White House frequently substitutes preaching for policy. And so on and so forth. But here is something curious. When analyzing what is happening in Iran, Americans--and I have discussed this topic with them on many occasions--assiduously bypass the dramatic events of the early fifties. And yet, as the saying is, they should know.

In 1953 with active and direct U.S. participation the government of Dr Mossadeq that had attempted to lead the country onto the path of progressive sociopolitical transformations, was overthrown. [paragraph continues]

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With active and direct U.S. assistance a regime was firmly established in Iran which has beaten many world records in the area of torture, executions, lawlessness and corruption. And the more rapidly Iran's industrialization has proceeded, the more acute and striking the contradiction has become between the objective needs of social development and the unfeeling, archaic sociopolitical structure. History has already shown repeatedly where such a contradiction leads....

So who is to blame? It is naive to seek "culprits," naming one institution or another or one politician or another. The "culprit" is the overall orientation of U.S. foreign policy, which for many decades has been directed toward keeping afloat regimes which have long outlived their time and at retarding urgently needed sociopolitical transformations.

'Fabrications' Against USSR Scored

ID032233Y Moscow in French to Europe 1800 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Powerful demonstrations by the people, which often take the guise of actual street fighting against the troops, are continuing in Iran. The demonstrators are demanding social democratic reforms and the end of U.S. interference in the country's affairs.

UPI begins its dispatch from Iran by quoting an American before he left Tehran: The Iranians are saying: Yankees out of Iran. A tract disseminated in Tehran has a plan to crush the popular uprising drawn up by specialists from the CIA, the Pentagon and the U.S. State Department. Over 60 representatives of these American bodies arrived in Iran at the end of last year.

The U.S. press is writing more and more often that American warships may be sent to Iranian waters in the gulf. (?Before the new year) it was reported that the U.S. aircraft carriers Constellation and Midway had left their bases in the Philippines and Japan to take up stations in the Indian Ocean, where they would await developments in Iran.

In this context, observers are quoting a statement by U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown. He announced plans to deploy more than three U.S. divisions in the gulf and the Middle East which, to quote him, could react quickly to regional disorders.

It should be pointed out that the debate in the U.S. press about U.S. plans and actions following the events in Iran is always accompanied by fabrications about the USSR. References to what is called the USSR's growing role and to pro-Soviet forces' (?activities) in the Iranian developments are ever more frequent. Everyone knows, PRAVDA writes, that the USSR has never interfered and is not interfering in Iran's internal affairs. The very talk about the plan to send American warships to the gulf is a show of strength and an obvious attempt to influence developments in the country. As the U.S. press admits, Washington fears for the fate of the enormous arsenals supplied to Iran, the arms orders worth billions of dollars which the military-industrial complex would not wish to lose and the oil supplies. Soviet peoples, PRAVDA emphasized, judge any interference in Iran's affairs to be inadmissible, no matter what the pretext.

Increasing Need for Oil

LDO31652Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 1130 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] Demonstrations in Iran are increasingly acquiring an anti-American tendency. UPI begins its latest report from Tehran with the words of an American at the airport, who said: "The Iranians say: Yankees Get Out of Iran." UPI reports that for 11 consecutive days actual street battles have been taking place between the armed forces and the demonstrators in Tehran. More and more anti-American slogans are appearing on walls, houses and shops in the city. Everywhere is written: Yankees Get Lost; CIA Officials Get Lost; Down With the Collaborators of American Imperialism; Long Live Freedom and Independence.

Reports on very severe clashes have been received from other cities, including Mashhad, Qazvin and Kermanshah. In Firuzabad, participants in antigovernment demonstrations attacked the local SAVAK office and freed detainees from an underground prison. During 2 days of clashes with the army and police in the city of Firuzabad, over 120 people were killed and about 500 wounded. Large demonstrations were held yesterday and the day before in the cities of Mianeh, Gorgan, Reza'iyeh, Tabriz, Zanjan, Hamadan, Rudbar, Langrud and Rasht. The security units once again used firearms and a number were killed and wounded as a result; 50,000 people took part in antigovernment demonstrations in Karaj.

The railroad workers have joined the workers of the oil industry and the national Iranian airline, postal workers, journalists, the international telephone center staff and customs officers who are on strike. Freight and passenger trains are at a complete standstill; all the airports are closed.

According to foreign news agency reports from Tehran, for the first time in several weeks the shah appeared before journalists and said he would like to leave the country for a winter holiday if work permits. THE DAILY TELEGRAPH expressed the view that the shah said this so as to facilitate the task of Shahpur Bakhtiar, who has been assigned the task of forming a new cabinet. Shahpur Bakhtiar has outlined his program in a radio statement and promised that the people's rights and liberties will be realized within the framework of the existing constitution. He spoke in vague terms on abolishing regulations relating to the ban of activity by political parties and organizations. Shahpur Bakhtiar asked the people to end antigovernment demonstrations and strikes. In the meantime, the general strike that has practically crippled all areas of the country's economic life continues as before.

Some of the influential leaders of the religious movement have asked the striking oil workers to open their oil wells and resume oil extraction and refining at the rate necessary to meet the country's domestic consumption. Riots and antigovernment demonstrations which have engulfed nearly 30 cities in the country still continue. According to an AFP report, the country's oil industry workers who are continuing their strike announced that only with the observance of the following conditions will they resume work: the government should undertake to insure that all oil industry products are on the whole used only to meet the people's consumption requirements and for (?peaceful) needs; the workers representatives are to supervise distribution of oil products allocated for domestic needs; and are also to insure that the government completely refrains from exporting oil, including to Israel.

The strikers [words indistinct] have stopped all oil exports by Iran and have limited the rate of oil refining to 250,000 barrels per day. Normally the rate is 750,000 barrels per day. Oil products thus obtained are expected to be used for domestic consumption and to meet hospital requirements and food producing industries. The aim of the political demands of the workers is in fact to topple the present regime.

Report of Clandestine Radio Denied

LDO31348Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 1130 GMT 22 Dec 78 LD

[[Zurikh Anatolyev] commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, events in Iran continue to attract the world's attention, and the propaganda of the Western bourgeoisie in describing these events, as with many other events, has deviated from the path of impartiality to that of prejudice. Our commentator (Zurikh Anatolyev) writes:

As soon as serious and critical events take place in a country, the Western press resorts to the story of the danger of communism. This press has concocted such a story about the recent events in Iran. For example, the British magazine FOREIGN REPORT has referred to a clandestine radio in the southern part of the Soviet Union as if it issues secret instructions about the staging and organization of demonstrations, and so forth, for Iranians. In the meantime, the actions and attitudes of opposition personalities toward these propaganda stories concerning interference from the north are being scrutinized. A few days ago at a press conference in Washington, Western correspondents asked Ebrahim Yazdi, who is a supporter of the religious opposition, a question about this. It ought to be clearly said that this was a provocative and prejudicial question, for Soviet policy concerning its neighboring country Iran is clear and obvious.

The Soviet Union maintains the position that Iranian events are merely an internal matter and that issues relating to these events ought to be resolved by the Iranians themselves. When, in spite of this, such a question is raised, what is the purpose and point of it? Naturally, putting forward such a question is aimed at diverting public opinion away from the policy of the Western countries, especially of the United States, concerning Iran so that the real culprits responsible for the suffering and difficulties of the Iranians may remain hidden from the public eye.

As for the direction from which the dangers facing the Iranian people are coming, the Western press, instead of referring to Soviet policy, ought to have referred to the United States and its policy. In this regard, the activities of Robert Byrd, the leader of the Democratic majority in the U.S. Senate who recently went on a confidential mission to Iran, and the activities of [name indistinct], adviser to the U.S. National Security Council who prepares confidential recommendations on Iranian events for the White House, are noteworthy. Finally attention should be drawn to the activity of the American CIA, which often sends uninvited guests to Iran. Thus, the danger to Iran originates from there.

Washington 'Beginning To Lose Patience'

LDO31433Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Dec 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Mikhail Rostarchuk article: "Are They Losing Patience in Washington"]

[Text] Gunfire was heard in downtown Tehran on 28 December, when demonstrators again filled the streets, demanding the shah's abdication, REUTER reports.

The previous day at least seven people were killed in the city. Most institutions and stores are still closed. Long lines formed outside kerosene stores--the authorities have rationed kerosene sales, since oil extraction now barely covers the country's own requirements for petroleum products.

Reports emanating from Tehran indicate that the mass anti-government demonstrations continue to have an anti-American orientation. The White House, for its part, is still following events in Iran "very attentively," but its line of "complete support for the shah's regime" remains unchanged. At the same time a State Department representative confirmed a report that the U.S. Embassy in Tehran is trying to establish contacts with opposition leaders.

However, Washington, it seems, is beginning to lose patience--something reflected in a relatively sharp statement in the Washington POST. In the opinion of the newspaper's Tehran correspondent, the antigovernment demonstrations have shown the "government's inability or unwillingness to put enough troops on the streets to back up in practice its threats to use tough military measures in siege conditions to maintain order." In other words: to maintain an "order" which suits WASHINGTON, it is necessary to use the iron fist--the more so since American advisers are ready to come to their assistance!

Demonstrations Increasingly 'Anti-U.S.'

LDO31948Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Popular demonstrations and strikes against the Government of Iran are growing. It can be seen that more and more they are of an anti-U.S. nature. The Iranian masses are not only calling for freeing the country from U.S. control, but also for a foreign policy independent of the United States.

This is particularly true in relation to Iran's policy in the Middle East. In order to satisfy Washington, the Iranian ruling circles support Israel and its anti-Arab line. Among the conditions put forward by Iranian workers for resumption of the oil industry activity is a ban on oil shipments to Israel. At the same time, the strong support of the progressive forces for the struggle of the Palestinian people and other Arab people for their national rights is becoming clear in many mass demonstrations. Current events in Iran once again indicate that the actions of the progressive forces in the Middle East are directed against corrupt internal regimes hostile to the people and against the neocolonialist policy of U.S. imperialism as well. It seems that this forces U.S. intelligence circles to expand interference in the affairs of Iran. The U.S. imperialists, here as in other Middle Eastern countries, are still trying to play the role of a policeman and suppressor of national and popular movements.

'Two-Stage Operation' Plot

LDO31212Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Text] According to news agency reports, real street battles between troops and demonstrators are continuing in Tehran. More and more anti-American slogans are appearing in the city. Reports on bitter confrontations in other Iranian towns are arriving also.

The only source of information which Iranians now trust is leaflets. As foreign correspondents report, one of them, entitled A Malevolent Plot, exposes the plan of the regime and its U.S. patrons to suppress the popular uprising. The shah, his generals, and specialists from the U.S. State Department, the Pentagon and the CIA have drafted a joint operation to be implemented in two stages. The leaflet says that the candidate for prime minister, S. Bakhtiar, who was expelled from the National Front for his agreement to take this role, has been the tool for realizing the first stage. Then a special group of senior officers enters the arena to engage in organizing various provocations, arson, murder and sabotage in Tehran at the right moment. This group tries to seize power and suppress the people's demonstrations by means of the cruellest terror and return the country to even darker times.

U.S. 'Gunboat Diplomacy'

ID031848Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1730 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

["Iran: The Struggle Continues"--TASS headline]

[Excerpts] New York, 3 January, TASS--Mass demonstrations continue in Tehran and other Iranian cities against the present regime and U.S. interference in Iran's internal affairs. Virtually the whole country has been seized by anti-government unrest.

The upper and lower chambers of the Iranian Parliament held closed sittings today where they formally approved the candidacy of Bakhtiar for the post of prime minister of Iran. He is to present a list of members of his cabinet to the shah on Wednesday.

The Los Angeles TIMES points out that "the United States has changed its position on the issue and is now encouraging the shah of Iran to temporarily leave his country--a country torn by unrest--while a civilian government is formed to put an end to the rioting."

The United States is positioning its naval forces on Iran's shores. It is striving by means of a "demonstration of force" to influence events in the country. A Pentagon spokesman has confirmed that the U.S. Near East naval formation of three ships has entered the Persian Gulf. Observers note that usually a maximum of one of these three ships is in the Gulf.

Thus, in spite of numerous U.S. State Department assertions, this time, too, they are resorting to gunboat diplomacy off Iran's shore.

U.S. 'Pressure' Moves

ID031817Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1330 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The situation in Iran remains tense despite the attempts to form a civilian government with Mr. Shahpur Bakhtiar at the helm. The Senate has today approved Mr Bakhtiar's nomination. The lower house of Parliament, the Majlis, is to consider the question later today. Leaflets spread in the capital, Tehran, describe Shahpur Bakhtiar as an instrument in a sinister plot to suppress the popular revolt. The plot is said to have been worked out by the present regime and its American patrons. The opposition National Front has condemned Mr Bakhtiar for his agreement to become prime minister under the present circumstances and has expelled him from its ranks. Large-scale antigovernment demonstrations have swept the whole of the country.

The demonstrators are demanding social and democratic reforms and also an end to United States interference in Iranian affairs. UPI news agency opened its report from Iran with the words: The Iranians are saying Yankee go home. Here are the details of what the situation is like in Iran:

Leaflets spread in the capital Tehran reveal a plan to quell the popular revolt. The plan was worked out by the CIA, the Pentagon and the State Department of the United States. Around 60 experts from those American agencies arrived in Iran late last month. The American press has increasingly been speaking about the possibility of sending American battleships to the Persian Gulf. Before the New Year holiday, news agencies reported about the Constellation and the Midway aircraft carriers having left their bases in the Philippines and Japan for the Indian Ocean to take position there and wait for how things will develop in Iran. Observers in this connection recall the statement made by the U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown revealed plans to station over three U.S. Army divisions in the Persian Gulf area and in the Middle East. The troops, Harold Brown said, would be able to quickly react to unrest in that region.

Noteworthy as the United States press has been discussing the U.S. plans and actions in Iran, there have been more and more inventions and falsehoods about the Soviet Union, there have been more references of late to the (?growing) role of the USSR and what is called (?external) forces in the Iranian events. It is common knowledge, writes the newspaper PRAVDA in Moscow, that the Soviet Union did not interfere and does not interfere now in the internal affairs of Iran. At the same time the very discussion of plans to send American battleships to the Persian Gulf is a real demonstration of force and a clear attempt to put direct pressure on the events in that country. The United States press itself reports that Washington is worried over the (?huge) arms supply to Iran and over additional multimillion arms orders for the United States military-industrial complex (?would not last a week). What worries Washington is also the continued supplies of Iranian oil. Soviet people, PRAVDA writes, (?feel) intolerable any interference in the Iranian affairs under whatever pretext.

State Department Cited on Ships

LD031556Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by (Kazbek Bakki)]

[Text] Tehran--The Iranian Parliament is to discuss the question of a new government today. Bakhtiar, who has agreed to head the government, has been expelled from the opposition National Front.

Tehran airport is filled with Americans trying to leave the country.

Agencies report serious clashes between demonstrators and police in over 30 towns. AFP reports the use of tanks against one demonstration. Terror and violence--the usual weapons for suppressing demonstrations--are clearly turning out to be insufficient. Political observers do not rule out the possibility of a direct military invasion. According to a U.S. State Department spokesman, there are already three warships of the U.S. 7th Fleet in the Persian Gulf. Another four, including the aircraft carrier Constellation, which have been taking part in military maneuvers, are based in a neighboring region.

At one time the monarchy used to engrave on its [word indistinct] the motto "ultima ratio regum," which means "the final argument of kings."

Are the U.S. ships now not the last argument in the struggle against the people who have risen in revolt?

'Chaos' at Airport

LD031804Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Text] UPI reports that actual street battles are taking place in Tehran between troops and demonstrators. In the city on the walls of houses, fences, shop windows, more and more anti-American slogans are being seen. Reports on fierce clashes are coming in from other towns, mainly from Mashhad, Kermanshah, Qazvin. In Firazabad, in southern Iran participants in an antigovernment demonstration attacked the local headquarters of SAVAK and freed prisoners from the underground prison. In 2 days of clashes with the army and police over 120 people have perished in this town, and about 500 have been injured. Mighty demonstrations have taken place in the towns of Mianeh, Gorgan, (Bagad), Rezssaiyeh, Tabriz, Zanjan, Hamadan, Rudbar, Langarud and Rasht. Security forces have once again used firearms and people have been killed or wounded.

Panic now grips the Americans who are in Iran. The airport in Iran is besieged by thousands of American specialists and members of their families who are trying to get out of the country. As a UPI correspondent reports, chaos reigns at the airport; the whole place is packed with people, suitcases and baggage. The airport workers are on strike. Foreign planes are landing and taking off independently, incurring a terrible risk since the flight control personnel refuse to assist them.

Israeli Movements in Iran

LD040919Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Dec 78 p 3 LD

[L. Korneyev article: "For a Foul Purpose"]

[Text] According to a report from Khomeyni, the leader of the Iranian opposition, published in the Lebanese newspaper AL-ANWAR, Tel Aviv has sent to Iran "crack military subunits to fight the enemies of the present regime." In taking such a step Israel has confirmed that Iran has always played an important part in the plans of international Zionism and Tel Aviv's Zionist rulers as a much-desired strategic, political and economic "zone of influence."

As early as the beginning of this century (M. Chess), one of the "theorists" of Zionism, bluntly declared: "We Zionists will be intermediaries between Europe and Asia, opening the ways to India and China--those unknown regions which must ultimately be opened up to civilization." The Zionists have always seen Iran, which has the largest Jewish community in Asia--some 100,000 people--as a kind of "bridge" on "to India and China." At the head of this community are representatives of the big financial and industrial bourgeoisie and the landowners, who have concentrated in their hands many key posts in the Iranian economy. The "Jewish agency" in Tehran acts as the leading organ. It took an active part in imperialism's subversive acts against Mossadeq's democratic government in 1953 which led to his overthrow.

Soon after this, France's LE MONDE reported, the "Jewish agency's" Tehran office became virtually an official Israeli mission "enjoying all the rights and privileges of a properly accredited embassy." The newspaper also pointed out that Israel took an extremely active part in training officer cadres for the Iranian Army, the police and SAVAK secret police. Official Israeli delegations, tourists, businessmen, military and nonmilitary advisers, and politicians from international Zionism and Tel Aviv's Zionist regime were constant visitors to Iran.

It should be pointed out that Tel Aviv made wide use of Iran for re-exporting its goods to other countries, including the states of the Arab East. "Iran is the lungs with which Israel breathes, and is a wide breach in the wall of the Arab boycott," Iraq's Baghdad OBSERVER wrote in this connection. According to information in the French magazine L'EXPRESS, in 1978 Israel will import 5 million tons of Iranian oil--60 percent of the "black gold" it uses and without which the Zionist war machine in the Near East would be dead.

Britain's THE FINANCIAL TIMES, which is closely linked with Zionist circles, also wrote recently that "perhaps one of the most surprising and significant phenomena in the present international arena is the strange friendship that has sprung up between Iran and Israel in the last few years. It could virtually be called an alliance, even an axis, although its existence is very rarely acknowledged or discussed."

Through Tel Aviv's political binoculars, a "peaceful" Iran is seen as a Zionist bridge-head on "the way to India and China," a source of strategic fuel and economic "lungs." At the very least, of course, the Zionists have an interest in preserving the status quo in Iran, which is to their advantage. This is why Israeli military subunits have been sent to Iran. At the same time, the decision by Tel Aviv is indicative of an escalation in Zionist "mini-imperialism" and of Israel's transformation into a gendarme not only in the Near East but in other regions also. Nor can you fail to see in this step by Israel the fact that the United States, while not yet decided on overt interference in Iranian affairs, has seen fit to resort to help from Tel Aviv's expansionists for this foul purpose.

Iranians 'Reject Archaic Monarchy System'

ID040953 [Editorial Report ID] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 December 1978
publishes on page 5 a TASS Paris report datelined 28 December, which says in part:

"AFP has published a statement by the Iranian Tudeh Party here. The party leadership, addressing progressive forces throughout the world, calls on them to do everything in their power to "make the shah's government stop its barbarous acts and crimes against the people."

"The statement stresses that 'after the impressive demonstrations which have taken place in Iran recently, and also in connection with the masses' unambiguously expressed determination to continue the struggle, there is no doubt that the Iranian people reject the archaic monarchy system."

The Tudeh Party, the statement indicates, considers the first condition of progress in Iran to be the elimination of the ruling regime and insists on the 'formation of a government of national unity capable of implementing freedoms, guaranteeing independence and ending the economic and social crisis in the country.'

Filippov Dispatch

LD031121Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 78 p 5 ID

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent A. Filippov "The Heat of the Political Struggle," names in parentheses as transliterated]

[Text] Tehran, 27 December--The deputies of the Majlis (the Iranian Parliament's lower house) interrupted their winter holidays to hold an emergency session today.
[paragraph continues]

The single question on the agenda was the discussion of the political and economic situation in Iran and ways of solving the growing crisis.

The session, attended by representatives of the government and top army circles, is taking place against the background of mass antigovernment and anti-American demonstrations and large-scale strikes by working people. Slogans at these demonstrations call for the shah's removal from power, the resignation of the military government and end an to American interference in Iran's internal affairs.

A well-known progressive figure, Professor (Nedzhatolla), was shot during a demonstration in Tehran where the disturbances have entered their fifth day. Tens of thousands of people went to the university today to protest his murder. According to a UPI report eight people were killed in a fierce clash between demonstrators and police and soldiers near the university.

The streets leading to the area where the shah's residence and Parliament are located have been sealed off by soldiers and police using tanks. Military helicopters constantly patrol the sky above the city. The international airport is closed.

Firearms have once again been used against the demonstrators. On (Shakh-Abbas) street I saw the police dispersing demonstrators by firing at them and people being run down by vehicles.

Antigovernment actions are not confined to the cities. They are also taking place in small and remote population centers which until recently were unaffected by the political struggle. In an attempt to stem the tide of political demonstrations the authorities have replaced the governors of a number of provinces and in the city of Esfahan the military commander has been replaced.

The activity of oil and gas fields has been paralyzed during the large-scale strikes by working people. For the second day running tankers belonging to Western firms have received no oil. All customs services stopped work today. The personnel of "Iran Air's" domestic and international services went on strike in the afternoon.

Statements by the National Front and also by other opposition organizations handed to Western journalists note that the opposition will continue the struggle until the military cabinet resigns and the shah is deposed.

[Moscow in Albanian to Albania at 1530 GMT on 3 January reports the following on the situation: The situation in Iran remains complicated and tense despite efforts for the formation of a civilian government headed by Shapur Bakhtiar. Both houses of Parliament today approved his candidacy for this post. In proclamations issued in Tehran Shapur Bakhtiar is described as a tool to achieve the ill-omened plot designed to suppress the popular revolt. The plot has been drawn up by the present regime and its American masters.

[The opposition National Front (?condemned) Shapur Bakhtiar for accepting such conditions to become prime minister and expelled him from its ranks.

[Meanwhile, extensive antigovernment and anti-American demonstrations continue throughout Iran. On Tuesday [2 January] demonstrations took place in almost 30 towns.]

[Moscow in Persian to Iran at 1130 GMT on 4 January reports: Yesterday, as on previous days, there were demonstrations by the broad masses against the present regime and U.S. intervention in Iran's internal affairs in Tehran and other cities. The antigovernment disturbances have engulfed the entire country. The cities of Yazd, Shabestar, Maragheh, Hashtrud, Tabriz, Zahedan and Mashhad have turned into centers for the people's demonstrations.

[The demonstrations in Tehran, particularly at night--that is, during curfew hours when all traffic on the streets is forbidden--are intensifying. According to Western correspondents, the opponents of the present regime are thereby demonstrating that they are firmly resolved to continue their struggle despite all oppressive operations by the powers that be.

[In the city of Qazvin, more than 100 persons were killed when soldiers atop tanks opened fire with automatic rifles and machineguns at demonstrators seen through windows and on porches.

[The situation in Mashhad is particularly critical and tense. For the past several days armed clashes between opponents of the present regime and the [armed] forces have continued unabated. Many people have been killed and wounded.

[According to a UPI report, at the initiative of the opponents of the present regime, people's courts are being set up in a great many cities in the country. They pass sentences on agents of the secret police, SAVAK, and those who cause the killing of persons dissatisfied with the authorities' actions. Such courts have been set up in Mashhad and Qazvin.

[According to eye-witness accounts, the demonstrators are demolishing police stations and freeing political prisoners by force.

[The Senate, Majlis and the National Consultative Assembly in their private sessions have officially endorsed the candidacy of Shahpur Bakhtiar as the Iranian prime minister. Within a few days he will introduce a list of the names of the members of his cabinet.

[The British newspaper DAILY TELEGRAPH wrote: It is known that Bakhtiar enjoys the support of certain U.S. circles, too.

[In an apparent effort to increase the political prestige of his future cabinet, Shahpur Bakhtiar said at a press conference yesterday that he intended to limit the powers of the secret police, SAVAK, to restore press freedom and to abolish--in stages--martial law provisions in the country.

[The National Front, which is the country's prime political force, and also other opposition and religious organizations in the country declare in their own rallies that even if the new cabinet received a vote of confidence they would oppose its activities.

[The general strike staged by the broad masses has paralyzed the country's economic life.

[The United States is anchoring its navy near Iran's shores and apparently wishes to influence the course of Iranian events through a show of force. A Pentagon spokesman confirmed that a U.S. naval group designated for the Near East region, made up of three warships, has arrived in the Persian Gulf.]

Variation to 'Rejoinder'

A comparison of the article entitled "Soviet Media Continue To Comment on Iran" and subtitled "'Rejoinder' Denies 'Interference'" published in the 3 January Soviet Union DAILY REPORT page F 1, with the text of the article entitled "Vain Fabrications" published in Moscow PRAVDA 3 January page 5 shows that the only variation is that the PRAVDA article is attributed to V. Germanov.

SYRIAN DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES IN USSR

LDO41438Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 4 Jan 79 LD

[Text] A Syrian military delegation headed by Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief and minister of defense of the Syrian Arab Republic, has arrived in Moscow on an official visit. The visit is in response to an invitation from Soviet Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Soviet defense minister.

USSR, SYRIA SIGN PROTOCOL ON ELECTRIFICATION COOPERATION

LDO41128Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1900 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpt] Recently, the meeting of the subcommittee of the Soviet-Syrian Joint Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation ended with the signing of a protocol on cooperation between the two countries in the sphere of electrification and power. The protocol was signed by Nikolay Lopatin, Soviet deputy minister of power and electrification, and engineer Muwaffaq an-Nuri, Syrian deputy minister of electricity. The new protocol provides for cooperation between the two countries in the construction of new powerlines linking the Euphrates hydroelectric complex with the most remote parts of Syria; it will make power available to farmers in the countryside and workers in factories.

PRAVDA HAILS SOVIET-ALGERIAN TIES, BOUMEDIENE CONTRIBUTION

LDO41031Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 78 p 4 LD

[Unattributed obituary: "In Memory of Houari Boumediene"]

[Excerpt] In the foreign policy sphere H. Boumediene and the Algerian Government he headed pursued a policy of peaceful coexistence among countries with different social systems and friendship with the socialist and progressive states which helped to protect and strengthen the country's national independence. Algeria enjoys generally recognized international prestige. The people's freedom-loving spirit, tempered by many battles against oppressors, has been apparent in support for national liberation movements on Arab soil, in Africa and in other parts of the world. Algeria is an active participant in the National Front of Steadfastness and Resistance set up to rebuff imperialist plans to "solve" the Near East crisis and invariably advocates the cohesion and unity of action of progressive liberation forces in the Arab world. Algeria made a contribution to the success of the Baghdad meeting of Arab states which resolutely condemned the separate deal at Camp David.

It is necessary also to note the big role played by Algeria as an active participant in the nonaligned movement, which has become an important factor in present-day international politics. It is to H. Boumediene's considerable credit that he contributed to the strengthening of anti-imperialist trends in this movement and to the strengthening of its progressive direction and that he ardently advocated peace and the relaxation of tension.

While sharing the Algerian people's grief at their loss it must be stressed that we are talking about the leader of a country which is our friend, a country with which the Soviet Union has ties of broad cooperation. H. Boumediene believed that the development of friendly relations with the Soviet Union is of fundamental significance for Algeria and is a basic direction of its foreign policy. As a true patriot H. Boumediene repeatedly said that cooperation with the Soviet Union is a national necessity for Algeria and serves the interests of the people and the building of a new life free from all forms of imperialist exploitation.

In fact, this cooperation began even before independent Algeria appeared on the map and grew stronger every year, becoming more and more multifaceted and impressive and affecting the economic and political, trade and defense, and cultural and information spheres. Hundreds of Soviet engineers and technicians, teachers and doctors are currently working in big cities and remote desert settlements helping the friendly people set up factories and plants, train national cadres and cure diseases. The steel smelting shop at the metallurgical complex in El Hadjar and the Ismail mercury enterprise, the light industry polytechnic institute, the mining and metallurgical institute and the national oil, gas and chemical institute in Boumerdas--this is only a partial list of the major projects constructed with the participation of Soviet specialists.

President H. Boumediene visited the Soviet Union many times. His meetings with Soviet leaders contributed to the strengthening of relations between our countries. The joint communique published in the press after H. Boumediene's meeting with L.I. Brezhnev and A.N. Kosygin in November noted that the sides expressed satisfaction with the proximity and broad coincidence of their views on the questions under discussion.

"The Soviet Union and Algeria," the communique said, "proceed on the basis of the need for further cohesion and stronger unity of actions between the socialist community countries and the nonaligned states and also the national liberation movements and other progressive forces which is a substantial factor in the successful struggle for peace and international security, for freedom and independence of the peoples."

We will always remember Houari Boumediene as a loyal son of the Algerian people, a prominent statesman and politician of the Arab world and Africa and active advocate of friendly relations and broad cooperation between Algeria and the Soviet Union, which are in keeping with both peoples' national interests.

MOSCOW COMMENTS ON BRZEZINSKI'S MIDEAST REMARKS

LD031520Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "Brzezinski Underlines the Special Relations Between the United States and Israel"]

[Text] Zbigniew Brzezinski, assistant to the U.S. President for national security affairs, has categorically denied rumors that the United States has [word indistinct] its special relations with Israel. In a statement to the New York TIMES magazine, Brzezinski said that those relations were still deep-rooted and firm as they have always been. This, I can definitely stress.

The subsequent statements by the U.S. President's assistant made it clear that Israel was still the major instrument in defending U.S. imperialist interests in the Middle East. Brzezinski called for speeding up the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli separate treaty so that more of [word indistinct] of the development will take place, as he put it. [sentence as heard] The assistant to the U.S. President then spoke about the need to find a system of regional cooperation with the West, extending from Iran to Morocco, and from the southern Arabian Peninsula to the Mediterranean shores. This system, Brzezinski says, will be based on a close alliance between the United States, Israel and Egypt. In order to justify the plans for establishing an economic, military and political bloc in the Middle East, President Carter's assistant alleged that such a bloc would give Israel the chance to live in the prosperity which those who founded Israel dream of.

In other words the United States is trying to make the best circumstances available for Israel so that it can exploit first of all the Arab people's national resources and effort. It is no mere coincidence that the Israeli capitalists are now drawing up widescale plans for future cooperation with Egypt. It is being openly said in Tel Aviv that after the establishment of normal relations with Egypt, Israeli businessmen, with the help of their U.S. partners, will be able to make large sums of money in a short period of time through investments and [word indistinct] in Egypt, such as establishments whose products are for export and also to meet Egypt's needs.

Thus the assistant to the U.S. President has affirmed the deeprooted special relations between the United States and Israel. In addition to this, he painted for his main ally in the Middle East a brightly colored picture about prosperity after the establishment of peace the U.S. way in the region.

TURKISH UNREST AIMED AT ESTABLISHING 'FASCIST REGIME'

LDO31505Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 78 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "On Events in Turkey"]

[Text] Ankara, 27 December--The Turkish parliament has approved a government decision to introduce martial law in 13 of the country's 67 provinces because of events in the city of Kahramanmaraş, where around 100 people were killed and over 1,000 injured as a result of provocations by right-wing extremists.

According to Turkish political commentators the organizers of these provocations are creating an atmosphere of terror and instability in an attempt to force the present government to resign to establish a reactionary military dictatorship in the country.

Addressing the parliamentary session, Prime Minister B. Ecevit said that the government was forced to introduce martial law in view of the increasing frequency of acts of terror which, he said, "have begun to jeopardize the state's integrity and unity." He stressed that the government will endeavor to use the power invested in it to restore public order in the country without restricting existing democratic and legal norms.

In his speech Foreign Minister I. Ozaydinli admitted that the unchecked outburst of terror and violence in the country has assumed a perilous scale and used this to justify the need to introduce martial law in accordance with the constitution.

Many members of parliament who participated in the debate expressed serious concern at the exacerbation of the domestic political situation in Turkey through provocative sorties by various extremists.

The situation in Turkey as a result of the tragic events in Kahramanmaraş was also discussed at a session of the national security council chaired by President F. Koruturk.

CUMHURİYET reported that the situation in Kahramanmaraş is gradually returning to normal. The city streets are being patrolled by strengthened detachments of regular troops and police. A commission set up to assess the amount of damage caused has established that 210 houses were burned down in Kahramanmaraş and around 70 institutions and stores were destroyed. The prosecuting organs are investigating the circumstances surrounding the outbreak of disturbances.

A statement by the Turkish Labor Party has been published here. It urges all progressive and democratic political and public organizations in the country to display maximum vigilance and not to submit to the extremists' provocations.

The statement also calls on the B. Ecevit government to prevent fascist-type right-wing elements from using martial law for their own ends.

In a statement distributed here the leadership of the Turkish miners' union says that the reactionary Nationalist Action Party and other extreme right-wing organizations want to use martial law to overthrow the present government and establish a fascist regime.

III. 4 Jan 79

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

H 1

DRAFT RHODESIAN CONSTITUTION ALLOWS WHITES TO RETAIN POWER

LDO32102Y Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] [Few words indistinct] the draft of the new Rhodesian constitution has been published in Salisbury. It has been prepared by the Smith Cabinet in cooperation with the African conciliators Muzorewa, Sithole and Chirau. Here are some details:

The new document has confirmed once again that the internal settlement being brought into reality by Ian Smith and his puppets has nothing in common with the real transfer of power to the African majority. The draft constitution allows the white minority to retain its [word indistinct] positions in the bodies of state power, in the army and police and in all areas of political and economic life. See for yourself. Out of the 100 seats in the Parliament, 28 are assigned to representatives of the white minority. Besides, representatives of the white minority have obtained the right to veto down any decision undesirable for them. No less than one out of four seats in the cabinet will be handed over to white Rhodesians.

The (?planting) of the new law in favor of the European Rhodesians does not prevent Salisbury officials from claiming that the draft constitution is another step toward achieving peace and stability. Meanwhile, the policies pursued by the Cabinet stand so far apart from peace and stability that neither the white population nor even Ian Smith have any confidence in them. This explains why the New Year message delivered by Ian Smith contained a desperate appeal to the Western powers to urgently back up the transition government. The collapse of the transition government will also mean the collapse of the internal settlement.

No urgent measures, including the new Rhodesian constitution, can help conceal the fictitious nature of the settlement in Rhodesia.

ZIMBABWE FRONT LEADER REJECTS NEW RHODESIAN CONSTITUTION

LDO41052Y Moscow TASS in English 0847 GMT 4 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Lusaka, January 4, TASS--The Zimbabwe Patriotic Front rejects Rhodesia's draft new "constitution", published in Salisbury, as another attempt at perpetuating white-minority rule. Muzorewa, representative of ZAPU, the Zimbabwe African People's Union, affiliated to the Patriotic Front, said in a TASS interview. This draft is a logical continuation of the disgraceful "internal settlement" agreement between the racists and the African puppets.

It follows from the provisions of the "constitution" that its purpose is to strengthen the power of the racists and to fool world opinion. Thus, the representatives of the white minority have the right to veto in "Parliament".

No bill can be adopted without their consent. As before, the racists remain the real bosses in the economy, and they will have undivided control over the army, police and machinery of state.

The only novelty, suggested by the sponsors of the "constitution", is the name of the future "independent" state, which they would like to call "Zimbabwe-Rhodesia". But our people, Muzorewa said, will never agree that the name of their country recalled the old racist order connected with the name of the British conqueror and colonialist Rhodes.

IZVESTIYA HITS WESTERN ARMS SUPPLIES TO RHODESIA REGIME

LDO31441Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Dec 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Article by TASS political observer S. Kulik: "Dangerous Provocations"]

[Text] It can hardly be called accidental that the latest round of Western diplomatic attempts to impose on independent Africa the Anglo-American plan for a "settlement" in Rhodesia has coincided with the toughening of I. Smith's aggressive policy against progressive regimes in neighboring states. Hardly a week goes by without the Rhodesians carrying out a barbarous raid on camps for refugees who have fled to the territories of Zambia or Mozambique from persecution by racists, or organizing armed provocations against peaceful inhabitants and civilian targets in those sovereign states. All this is being carried out under cover of propaganda ballyhoo organized by the West about the desire of Washington and London for a "peaceful settlement" in Rhodesia, which is in fact enabling I. Smith to drag things out and make short work of the patriots.

The facts indicate that the racists' barbarous actions pursue the aim of demoralizing and weakening the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, increasing pressure on the frontline states and compelling the Zimbabwe people to agree to the puppet regime being imposed on them by the initiators of the "internal settlement." Here the Rhodesian military virtually playing the role of punitive force in the service of international capital, which is interested in resolving the Rhodesian problem in a neocolonialist manner. It is gambling on making this country a kind of buffer zone separating independent Africa from the sanctuary of monopoly capital--the racist Republic of South Africa.

It is precisely the imperialist states' interest in realizing these plans that makes them play the part of the racists' protector. Connivance and support on the part of the United States, Britain and other NATO countries are freeing the Smith regime to ignore the will of the United Nations and the peace-loving public and commit open acts of aggression against sovereign African countries.

The recently increased scale of weapons deliveries to the racists, which are being made by the United States and certain other NATO powers in violation of international sanctions, should be regarded as a direct challenge to public opinion. Thus, as the State Department admits, Rhodesian troops recently received a consignment of American-made helicopters. The illegal Salisbury regime has also acquired through the Republic of South Africa a large consignment of Mirage aircraft and artillery pieces imported from European NATO countries. It is precisely this war materiel that Smith is using for armed provocations against Zambia and Mozambique and for pursuing a policy of genocide against Zimbabwe's African population. Therefore, precisely these countries bear responsibility, along with Smith, for the crimes that have already been and are being committed by the racists.

The Soviet Union shares the "frontline states'" concern over the situation taking shape in southern Africa, since the actions of the racists and their protectors pose a real threat to peace and security in that region. This situation demands resolute and solidarity action on the part of all who cherish the ideals of freedom and independence. As African figures themselves point out, unity within the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front and the coordination of policy among the "frontline states" are currently assuming special significance.

The Soviet Union's position is well known: It is confirmed in the Warsaw Pact states' declaration. The socialist states resolutely support the Zimbabwe people in their selfless struggle for the speediest attainment of national independence and condemn attempts to impose on Zimbabwe alien neocolonialist solutions which might create the danger of new conflicts erupting in that region.

COMMENTATOR DENIGRATES PEKING'S 'AID' TO EAST AFRICA

LD291759Y Moscow TASS in English 1601 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 29, TASS--TASS political commentator Sergey Kulik writes:

In connection with the planned intensification of Peking's diplomacy in East Africa, the PRC propaganda machine is going out of its way to advertise the allegedly "unselfish" and "effective" aid given by China to the developing countries of that region. The biggest Chinese project in Africa, the Tanzam railway line, is presented as the "best model" of such aid.

Meanwhile, foreign observers note that the running of the railway causes serious problems. One American correspondent pointed to the inefficiency of the Tanzam line as one of the main reasons which prompted President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia to take the decision on resuming railway communications through Rhodesia. On October 12 a UPI correspondent reported from Lusaka that the Tanzam is no longer used because of technical difficulties and poor material and technical supplies.

A report of the World Reconstruction and Development Bank notes that the freight cars as well as the locomotives delivered for the Tanzam from the PRC constantly break down.

The results of Chinese "aid" are rather deplorable: The young African countries are bearing losses and, according to a REUTER correspondent in Dar es Salaam, Zambia is experiencing serious difficulties in exporting copper, which inflict on its economy great damage.

There are those who, standing on purely racist positions, blame the setbacks on the Tanzam on the Africans, saying they are unable to operate machinery, and lack trained specialists. It can be asked, however, why Africans, Tanzanians and Zambians included, for several decades now have been successfully running other railways on their territories? The cause is different. The New York TIMES points out that it is China which lacks modern engineering standards, essential for success in implementing sophisticated economic projects in Africa....

Why, then, did Peking undertake the building of the Tanzam railway? Today, five years after its completion, China's true aims stand out particularly clearly.

Having subordinated economic relations with Africa to its hegemonistic ambitions, Peking undertook the Tanzam project not with the purpose of helping Tanzania and Zambia but in the hope of consolidating its political and ideological influence in that region. Being itself unable to render effective aid to Africa, yet seeking at the same time to prevent the development of reciprocally advantageous cooperation of the continent's developing countries with the countries of the socialist community, Peking is practically pushing African countries into the strangling embrace of imperialism and neocolonialism.

Besides, the Chinese have substantially lined their pockets on the Tanzam construction. Therefore, the paradox of Chinese "aid" is that, rather than resulting in Africa's industrialization with China's help, it leads to the financing by that continent's countries of the industrial development of the PRC itself. Such an approach actually sabotages industrialization in Africa, wrote a major Nigerian paper THE WEST AFRICAN PILOT.

In view of the hegemonistic course on which Peking founds its relations with Africa, all this is hardly astonishing. China would like to see African countries backward, without industry. The perpetuation of Africa's economic backwardness perfectly suits Peking, since the Chinese leaders see it as a prerequisite for implementing their great-power dream: turning third-world countries into its "charges", obediently following in the wake of Chinese policy.

PRAVDA REPORTS START OF AIRFREIGHT SERVICE TO MADAGASCAR

LD291657Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Dec 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Friendly Assistance"]

[Text] Antananarivo, 26 December, TASS--A Soviet AN-12 transport aircraft has arrived in the Democratic Republic of Madagascar. In line with an accord reached during a visit to the USSR by Madagascar President Didier Ratsiraka, Soviet pilots will be carrying national economic cargoes for a period of a year.

ETHIOPIAN MINISTERS CITED ON CULTURAL EXCHANGE ACCORD

LD311805Y Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 31 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, December 31, TASS--Meetings and talks with the leaders of the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies, of the USSR-Ethiopian Friendship Society, and the first co-operation plan for 1979-1980 signed in Moscow, will doubtlessly play an important role in further strengthening the bonds of friendship between the peoples of Ethiopia and the Soviet Union, declared the chairman of the Ethiopian-Soviet Friendship and Solidarity Committee, the minister of transport and communications of Ethiopia Ahmed Yusuf. With a delegation of the committee, he recently visited the USSR.

According to this document, the public in the two countries will celebrate their national holidays and red-letter dates, will exchange delegations and exhibitions. Culture days will be held in Ethiopia and the USSR, the minister said.

The minister of information and national orientation of Ethiopia Girma Yilma spoke of the cordial reception given the Ethiopian delegation in the Soviet Union, the atmosphere of friendship and genuine mutual understanding in which the talks passed. We could see once again he said, that the Soviet people sincerely supports the Ethiopian revolution, shares its goals and tasks.

CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ON FIRST MONTH OF KNUFNS ACTIVITY

LDO32332Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Our Indochina correspondent Leonid Krichevskiy reports:

A month has passed since the formation of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation [KNUFNS]. Its program in domestic and foreign policy has won for it support among the broadest sections of the country's population. Each day new reports come out of Kampuchea that the struggle against the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary group is increasing in scale. Popular risings are occurring now in various provinces.

The front has also had its first successes on the battlefield. Grouped revolutionary armed forces, acting with the support of the local population, have liberated considerable areas in many provinces. Their major victory has been the liberation of the provincial center of Kratie, some 160 kms from Phnom Penh.

The KNUFNS is supported by the world public. At the same time, the formation of the front and its successes draw a malicious reaction from Peking. The Chinese authorities continue daily to build a hostile propaganda campaign against it. Peking falsely accuses the Vietnamese armed forces of encroaching on Kampuchean territory, yet the facts show the contrary. On 23 December three regiments of the Phnom Penh armed forces invaded Vietnamese territory in the province of Tay Ninh with the aim of seizing the provincial center situated some 100 kms west of Ho Chi Minh. The Vietnamese armed forces drove back the enemy from its territory, encircling and routing the three regiments. A large number of weapons, including some Chinese, were taken. Captured Kampuchean officers and men confirmed that the main aim of the invasion was the seizure of the provincial center of Tay Ninh.

Peking's propaganda cannot hide the fact that the KNUFNS enjoys wide support among the population of Kampuchea, which has risen in a just struggle to overthrow the Phnom Penh regime, establish a popular democratic system and transform Kampuchea into a truly peaceful and independent country progressing along a socialist path.

STATEMENT PRAISING CAMBODIAN FRONT'S 'FOREIGN POLICY' CITED

LDO41032Y Moscow TASS in English 1017 GMT 4 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, January 4, TASS--The foreign policy of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation (KNUFNS) is in keeping with the desire of the peoples of Vietnam and Kampuchea to live in conditions of peace and friendship, says a joint statement issued by the Vietnamese-Kampuchean Friendship Society, the Vietnamese Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, the Vietnamese Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with Foreign Countries and the Vietnamese Peace Committee.

The foreign policy statement of the KNUFNS Central Committee, the document says, clearly shows that the front pursues a policy of independence, peace, non-alignment, and cooperation with all countries, a policy aimed at restoring long-standing traditions of friendship and solidarity with Vietnam, good-neighbourly relations with Laos, Thailand and other countries of Indochina and South-East Asia.

III. 4 Jan 79

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
INDOCHINA

SRV FOREIGN MINISTRY MEMORANDUM ON PRC VIOLATIONS REPORTED

LD021246Y Moscow TASS in English 1239 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

["Peking's Expansionism"--TASS Headline]

[Text] Hanoi, January 2, TASS--In the last days of December the Chinese side repeatedly violated Vietnam's territorial integrity, its servicemen made inroads into the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, set up ambushes, fired on civilians and frontier guards. Five Vietnamese were kidnapped, several persons were wounded, it is pointed out in the memorandum of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry published here.

It is necessary to stress, the document notes, that the brute actions of the Chinese side are accompanied by a military build-up in the border areas with Vietnam, instigatory propaganda and threats against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, fanning up of tension on the border between the two countries.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam condemns strongly the brazen actions of the Chinese authorities and demands that the Chinese side should immediately return the kidnapped Vietnamese and compensate the damage caused to the families of the Vietnamese, who have suffered from the fire of the Chinese frontier guards, and to the population of the border areas. The Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam demands in immediate end to the provocations and violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam. The Chinese side must bear full responsibility for its criminal actions, the memorandum stresses.

Hanoi, January 2, TASS--The Peking leaders are continuing their hegemonic expansionist course vis-a-vis Vietnam, it is pointed out by the newspaper NHAN DAN, organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

Encroaching upon the territorial integrity of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, arranging border conflicts, coming out with threats against Vietnam, Peking has declared the Spratly Archipelago and the Paracel Islands a part of its territory. Vietnam, NHAN DAN stresses, condemns strongly this impudent statement, threatening the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam. The Spratly Archipelago and the Paracel Islands are Vietnam's territory.

The unlawful seizure by China in 1974 of the Paracel Islands is an act of outright aggression and a manifestation of Peking's expansionism in Southeast Asia. The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the newspaper points out, warns the Chinese authorities that the Vietnamese people are fully resolved to uphold the sovereignty and integrity of the country.

SOLIDARITY WITH VIETNAM REASSERTED, PRC PROVOCATIONS SCORED

LD041041Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Dec 78 p 5 LD

[Aleksandr Serbin article: "Solidarity With Vietnam"]

[Text] The provocations by the Peking hegemonists against Socialist Vietnam are assuming an increasingly dangerous character. By violating the sovereignty of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Chinese side instigates bloody incidents. Chinese army units cross into Vietnam's territory, open fire on Vietnamese frontier guards and abduct people. [paragraph continues]

At the same time, the Phnom Penh leadership, instigated by Peking, continues whipping up conflicts on the Vietnamese-Kampuchean border. They are planned and executed under the direction of "advisers" of China, whose number in Kampuchea already runs into tens of thousands.

The Peking leaders accompany their provocative actions with a malicious anti-Vietnamese campaign in their press. As is known, the campaign was originally launched under the invented pretext of alleged persecution of ethnic Chinese--Huachiao--in Vietnam. Now, however, even this fabricated pretext is being ever more abandoned. Slandorous fabrications in connection with Huachiao are replaced with direct threats. Thus, the newspaper PEOPLE'S DAILY meaningfully said that "there is a limit to Chinese patience". The same newspaper has actually put forward a list of Peking's territorial claims on Vietnam. The Peking leaders actually expose themselves by their actions. They appear unmasked before international public opinion as great power chauvinists and hegemonists.

The heroic Vietnamese people firmly withstand their hostile intrigues. They continue carrying out socialist transformations and all-round strengthening of their state--the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The source of their calm and confidence in their strength lies in the rich experience of struggle for independence, successes in the construction of a new life and international solidarity with their righteous cause.

As before, in the years of struggle against imperialist aggression, Vietnam is guaranteed fraternal support and assistance from the countries of the socialist community linked with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam with the indestructible bonds of proletarian internationalism. The Soviet people's solidarity with the Vietnamese brothers is unshakeable. Its vivid manifestation has been the treaty of friendship and cooperation recently signed between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam--a document of true historic significance, which is called upon to serve the interests of peaceful creative labor of our peoples, to make their fraternal friendship even stronger and deeper. On the side of Vietnam are the sympathies and support of wide world public.

KHARKHOV INDUSTRY ASSISTS VIETNAM AGRICULTURE

LD021610Y Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Kharkov, January 2, TASS--About 20,000 general-purpose wheeled tractors will be annually turned out by Vietnam's first tractor plant near Ho Chi Minh. Kharkov specialists have started working on blueprints for this enterprise. The 55-h.p. machines will allow the Vietnamese farmers to raise labour efficiency and mechanise labour-consuming jobs in rice, coffee and jute growing, to open up hundreds of thousands of hectares of new land.

The working people of Kharkov, a major industrial centre of the Ukraine, are linked with Vietnam by bonds of friendship and close cooperation. Orders of the fraternal people are filled by personnel of the local tractor, electromechanical, motor-building and other enterprises. About 300 Vietnamese youths and girls are attending higher educational establishments of Kharkov. More than 500 Vietnamese have already received diplomas of Kharkov institutes and are contributing successfully to the consolidation of the material and technical foundation of socialism in their country.

BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN, OTHERS SIGN OBITUARY FOR ALEKSEYEVSKIY

LDO31956Y Moscow TASS in English 1932 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] Moscow, January 3, TASS--Yevgeniy Alekseyevskiy, prominent organizer of socialist agriculture, member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Hero of Socialist Labour, minister of land reclamation and water conservancy of the USSR, died here at the age of 72. The obituary was signed by Leonid Brezhnev, Aleksey Kosygin and other Soviet leaders.

SAKHALINSKIY OBKOM PLENUM REPLACES FIRST SECRETARY

LDO41037Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Dec 78 p 2 LD

[Text] Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, 23 December--An organizational question was examined at a Sakhalinskiy Obkom plenum held today. In connection with P.A. Leonov's election to the post of Kalininskiy Obkom first secretary, P.I. Tretyakov, who has been working as Sakhalinskiy Obkom secretary, was elected Sakhalinskiy Obkom first secretary at the plenum.

BRIEFS

OBLAST-LEVEL RESHUFFLE--In view of Comrade Abdukarimov's election as Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, Kzyl-Ordinskiy Obkom at its recent plenum relieved him of the duties of Kzyl-Ordinskiy Obkom first secretary and obkom Bureau member. The plenum elected (Grishanov), Kzyl-Ordinskiy Obkom first secretary and obkom Bureau member. The plenum proceedings were attended by Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Second Secretary Korkin. [Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1510 GMT 29 Dec 78 AU]

BIROBIDZHAN PARTY CONFERENCE--A party conference was held in Birobidzhan on 24 December. The conference discussed shortcomings in work and in the activities of party organizations. A speech was made by Shapiro, Jewish Autonomous Oblast Party Committee first secretary. A new city party committee was elected. The first organizational plenum of the gorkom reelected Yevgeniy Vasilyevich Gritsay as gorkom first secretary. [Khabarovsk Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 25 Dec 78 OW]

KHABAROVSK KRAY RESETTLERS--Last year 29 families arrived in Petrovskiy Sovkhoz [in the Jewish Autonomous Oblast] as settlers. Many of them, including a family from Moldavia, have become full-fledged members of the collective. Presently preparations are underway to receive more settlers and everything is being done to settle another 30 families in the Far East. [Khabarovsk Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 23 Dec 78 OW]

WRITER PETRO PANCH DIES--Soviet literature has suffered a heavy loss. Petro Panch, prominent writer, one of the pioneers of Ukrainian Soviet literature, and CPSU member since 1940, died on 1 December 1978 at the age of 87. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 1 Dec 78 AU]

SCIENTISTS ASKED FOR GREATER EFFORTS TO DEVELOP AGRICULTURE

LD040845Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Dec 78 Morning Edition p 1 LD

[Unattributed report: "Collaboration of Science and Agriculture"]

[Text] After discussing at its session the tasks of Soviet science in implementing the comprehensive program for the further development of the country's agriculture elaborated at the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) plenum, the USSR Academy of Sciences General Assembly appealed to all personnel of USSR Academy of Sciences scientific establishments, union republic academies of sciences, and higher education establishments and to the scientists and designers of ministry and department institutes and planning organizations to increase their specific contribution to this nationwide [obshchenarodnyy] cause and to concentrate their efforts on working out the pressing problems of intensifying agricultural production, increasing its efficiency and drawing together material and cultural and consumer living conditions in the cities and countryside.

Soviet scientists are doing a great deal towards speeding up technical and social progress in agriculture. But the new and more responsible tasks confronting agriculture demand from a wide range of specialists even more active participation and an even more substantial contribution towards successfully resolving the multifarious tasks of rural development.

It is the duty of scientific and technical workers to constantly enrich their practical work with new discoveries and achievements and to further in all possible ways by their research the increase of the production of grain, meat and other produce and the imparting of greater stability and dynamism to the development of all branches of agricultural production. Scientists of all specializations must constantly study and find opportunities for introducing scientific achievements in their fields into agriculture. In order to solve major scientific and technical agrarian problems it is necessary to work them out more comprehensively and to make wider use of joint inter-sectorial targeted research programs of a kind which will further the balanced development of all branches of the country's agroindustrial complex.

The General Assembly of the USSR Academy of Sciences called on all scientists to concentrate their efforts and knowledge on solving the tasks set and to make a worthy contribution to implementing the program outlined by the CPSU for the further development of agriculture--a program directed toward steadily increasing the Soviet people's prosperity.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER REPORTS ON TRACTOR OVERHAUL PROGRESS

LD031832Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The initiators of all-union competition of agricultural machine operators from Krasnodarskiy Kray, Tulskeya, Kemerovskaya, Donetskaya and Severo-Kazakhstanskaya oblasts and Tadzhikistan have completed preparing sowing machines, plows and cultivators for spring fieldwork. It has been reported to us at the USSR Ministry of Agriculture that in the country as a whole the overhaul of tractors and motor vehicles is progressing faster than last year despite the great wear and tear they suffered during the difficult weather conditions for fieldwork in the past year.

The preparation of equipment for the spring has been well organized in Rostovskaya Oblast, in the Altayskiy Kray and in many other oblasts of the RSFSR, the Ukraine and Kazakhstan. In these areas combine harvesters and reapers are undergoing overhaul at the same time as sowing machines.

Nevertheless, the rate of preparing sowing machines, plows and cultivators and of overhauling harvesting equipment is slower than at the same time last year. The delayed supplies of spare parts are holding them back.

The collectives of the Altay motor plant, the Pavlodar tractor plant and the Volgograd tractor construction association especially are lagging behind.

AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS IN NORTH CAUCASUS REPORTED

LDO40802Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Summary] Farmers in the north Caucasus have completed the top dressing of winter crops, which occupy about 7 million hectares there. Good seeds have been stored for the spring. In Rostovskaya Oblast, the Kuban and Stavropolskiy Kray, 150 machine operators have been trained per 100 tractors. All sowing machines, plows and cultivators have been overhauled in these areas, and the plan for the fourth quarter for the repair of tractors, combines and harvesters has been fulfilled.

"Farms in the autonomous republics of the northern Caucasus are a little behind. Specialists of the RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture are worried over hold ups of equipment for spare parts. To this very day farms in the northern Caucasus zone are not linked by contract agreement to supply works and because of this apparently small formality valuable time may be lost and some of the machinery will remain unprepared for spring sowing and other field work of the new year.

"Claims can also be made against Glavneftesnab [Main Administration for the Transportation and Supply of Petroleum and Petroleum Products] which is holding up supplies of fuel, especially in Stavropolskiy Kray. Kolkhozes and sovkhoses in the kray were undersupplied by 14,000 tons of stove fuel in December. This makes the work of fodder shops more difficult, and has negative effects on the wintering of cattle and on the work of fertilizing units."